

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 TOKYO 19027 120508Z

ACTION EA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 L-03 H-01 INR-07 PM-05 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 SSO-00 INRE-00 /047 W

-----015586 120511Z /21

O 120450Z DEC 77

FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3481

C O N F I D E N T I A L TOKYO 19027

STADIS //////////////////////////////////////

EA/J PLATT FROM SELIGMANN

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MARR, JA

SUBJECT: LABOR-COST SHARING

REFS: (A) PLATT-SHERMAN TELCON DEC. 12; (B) TOKYO 18931;

(C) CINCPAC 102200Z DEC 77

1. KITAMURA CALLED THIS MORNING TO EXPRESS ANXIETY THAT TIME WAS RUNNING OUT. WHILE PRECISE DEADLINE WAS HARD TO PIN DOWN, INASMUCH AS IT DEPENDED ON "MANIPULATION WITHIN FINANCE MINISTRY," HE SAID WE HAD ABOUT FOUR OR FIVE DAYS LEFT. (WE SHOULD ALSO NOTE THAT JOINT COMMITTEE MEETING MORNING OF DECEMBER 15 WILL BE LAST AT WHICH WE CAN FORMALIZE AGREEMENT BEFORE MID-JANUARY.)

2. IN WORKING OUT RESPONSE TO REF B, WE HOPE YOU WILL BE ABLE TO AVOID AN INSTRUCTION THAT WOULD AUTHORIZE US TO ACCEPT AN "ENDEAVOR CLAUSE," BUT WOULD INSIST, AS SUGGESTED REF C THAT "WE PRESERVE GREATEST POSSIBLE LATITUDE TO NEGOTIATE FURTHER IN NEAR AND LONG-TERM." UNLESS WE ARE GIVEN SOME EXPLICIT SUGGESTIONS ON HOW TO ACCOMPLISH THIS, BEYOND THOSE TRIED TO DATE WITHOUT SUCCESS, AND
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STATE AND DEFENSE FEEL CONFIDENT IN LIGHT OF OUR RECENT NEGOTIATIONS THAT THESE WILL BE ACCEPTABLE TO JAPANESE SIDE, WASHINGTON WILL BE SAYING IN EFFECT THAT GOJ OFFER IS NOT WORTH ACCEPTING. AS PRACTICAL MATTER, AS WE HAVE POINTED OUT TO USFJ, JAPANESE CANNOT STOP US FROM REOPENING ISSUES NEXT YEAR, NOR CAN WE STOP THEM FROM REFUSING. IF, HOWEVER, WE SERIOUSLY INTEND TO RAISE SOFA INTERPRETATIONS

IN 1978, WE WILL BE BANGING HEADS ON A STONE WALL. FINALLY,
IF WE ARE TRYING TO SET STAGE FOR A PROLONGED YEAR-END
LABOR NEGOTIATION IN 1978, AND WE INSIST ON MAKING THIS
CLEAR NOW, THEN WE HAD BEST COME UP WITH AT LEAST DOL\$55
MILLION IN COURSE OF THAT NEGOTIATION TO MAKE UP FOR
MONEY WE WILL HAVE FOREGONE THIS YEAR PLUS NEXT YEAR'S
TRANCHE.
MANSFIELD

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Message Attributes

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